Waiting list of General Category subscribers in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Haryana

1188. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details as on 1st February, 1997 of the waiting list of the general category subscribers/applicants in the States of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Haryana;

(b) the details in regard to the telephone connections provided during the first nine months of the current financial year; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The details of the waiting list of "general category" subscribers as on 1st February, 97 in Punjab, U.P., Bihar, and Haryana are given below:

State	Waiting list
Punjab	2,23,978
U.P.	1,69,193
Bihar	59,780
Haryana	1,01,256

(b) The details in regard to the telephone connections provided during the first nine months (April' 96 to December' 96) of the current financial year is as given below:

State	No. of Telephone connections provided
Punjab	51729
U.P.	87901
Bihar	20362
Haryana	22503

(c) Planning has been made to clear the above waiting list of U.P.(E), U.P.(W) and Bihar progressively during 97-98, and in the case of Punjab and Haryana during 98-99.

Demand and Supply of Telephones

1189. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise and year-wise details of demand and supply of telephone connections at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a wide gap between the demand and supply to telephone connections in the country; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Details of demand and supply of telephone connections, State-wise, and month-wise at present (April 96 to January 97) is given in Annexure and the same year-wise for the last three years is also given in Annexure. [*See Appendix 180 Annexure No. 29*]

(b) and (c) Growth rate for telephone demand in the country steadily increased from 9.24% (1993-94) to 19.31% (1995-96). The resource allocation and availability of other infrastructure are being stepped up during Ninth Five Year Plan to improve the supply of telephone connections in the country.

Construction of Postal Building in Kutch District

1190. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plots of land were acquired by Government for the purpose of construction of postal buildings five years back in villages Naliya, Khavda, Kera, Kukma and Lakadia in Kutch district;

(b) if so, whether any construction work has been started there so far;

(c) if not, the reason therefor;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed by the Department of Posts for this lapse; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and by when all the five postal buildings are likely to be taken in hand for construction?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Plots of land have been acquired by the Government in the following four villages of Kutch Dist. on the dates mentioned against each:

S. No.	Name of village	Date of Acquisition
1.	Naliya	15.5.92
2.	Kera	18.7.83
3.	Kukma	10.1.83
4.	Khavda	09.7.81

No site has been acquired in village Lakadia.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Due to paucity of funds the Department could not take up the construction work.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) The construction of postal buildings depend on availability of sufficient funds and priority of the projects.

Capacity of Kurebhar Telephone Exchange in Sultanpur District of Uttar Pradesh

1191. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the installed capacity of Kurebhar telephone exchange in Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh alongwith the number of persons waiting for telephone connections;

(b) the number of persons of village Seur-Chamurkha waiting for the connection;

(c) whether the exchange is being put to optimum utilisation;

(d) if so, the number of connections sanctioned and installed;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared in the above area alongwith the steps being taken to strengthen the rural communication infrastructure/network?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Installed capacity — 184
Waiting list — 12.

(b) Ten.

(c) Some spare capacity is available.

(d) The number of connections sanctioned and installed are 152.

(e) Most of the waiting list is recent except few old cases. These could not be cleared due to shortage of cables and line material.

(f) The above stated waiting list will be cleared in the early part of year 1997-98. Following steps are being taken to strengthen the rural communication insfrastructure/network:—

1. It is planned to replace the present open wire system by modern and reliable transmission media between Kurebhar and Sultanpur by March, 97.

2. To provide more village Panchayat telephones in the area.

Waiting list of Telephone in Rajasthan

1192. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons waiting for telephone connections in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan;

(b) the details of the total installed capacity and Telephone Exchange availability in each district;

(c) by when Government propose to issue connections to all the wait listed persons, district-wise, in Rajasthan; and